

Mean a Lot In West Germany

Frankfurt, Germany — (UPI) — It's the little things that count — particularly when you're tipping a porter, waiter, barber or garbage collector.

West Germany, which prides itself on being largely a "no tipping" country — most restaurants and hotels add a 10 per cent service charge to bills with the idea of avoiding tipping — is finding out that a tip is something you just can't abolish.

Everyone seems to have his hand out — even if the practice is not so blatant as in some other countries.

Waiters, as in almost all other countries, are experts at searching their pockets vainly for change until the embarrassed diner mumbles, "Keep it." Barbers, too, never seem to have change for any bill or coin under one mark (25 cents).

But there is no end to the list: Taxidrivers, expressmailmen, porters, hat check girls, mailmen bringing money orders, chambermaids, tourist guides, theater ushers, parking lot guards, shoeshine boys and cigarette vendors in hotels — in fact almost everybody except yourself is an aspirant for a tip, or to translate the German word literally, "Drinking money."

Annual Tip

Besides those expecting a daily tip, there are professions that are entitled at least to an annual tip: Garbage collectors, cleaning women, the newspaper boy, the mailman, and — most important of all — the chimney sweep. They all stop by to congratulate you the first of January — with an open hand of course.

The tip, drinking money, obviously is not for what its name might indicate. Otherwise there would be no sober waiter, taxidriver, hairdresser or mailman.

The dictionary says it is a token of money in small coins, but it by far more than the definition says — it is a bargain price for the sympathy of those performing personal services for you.

Just try to save your money and cut the tip out. The friendly "good morning, sir" of the mailman will turn into a hoarse clearing of the throat, and the charming hat check girl will overlook you in the queue, and finally bury your spotless hat under the heavy load of your neighbor's fur coat.

Easter Music Is Featured at Lunch

Easter music and the official visit of the Division 15A lieutenant governor featured the program of Medford Kiwanis club at its Wednesday luncheon meeting at Rogue Valley Country club.

St. Mary's High school Marian choir, directed by Sister Mariam Joseph, sang six selections. Jack Stong provided pre-luncheon music on the organ.

Lt. Gov. Peter Cudd, Grants Pass, stressed the Kiwanis International theme for the year, "Build Responsible Citizenship," and said the themes are means by which the service organization can expand its work and activities. He said that of the Kiwanis activities projected for the year, the CQ (citizenship quotient) program offers the greatest challenge.

Cudd announced that the division's spring conference will be held Sunday, May 28, at Klamath Falls.

It was reported that the Grants Pass Kiwanis club, with Cudd largely responsible, is starting a dental clinic similar to the one sponsored on a countywide basis here.

1.5 Billion Pencils Sold in U. S. Yearly

New York — (UPI) — The man who discovered graphite in Cumberland, England, nearly 400 years ago had no way of knowing that it would lead to the annual sale of over a billion and a half pencils in America.

This averages out to roughly nine pencils a year for every person in the nation, according to trade sources.

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